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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of REM et al.

Application No. 10/088,429

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Examiner: Rodriguez, J.

MAR 1 8 2004

Filed: March 15, 2002

Group Art Unit: 3653

METHOD OF SEPARATING PARTICLES IN A FLUID MEDIUM AND AN

APPARATUS THEREFOR

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 3-18-04

Reg. No. 40,764

Mark D. Bassler

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

For:

This response is in reply to a restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action dated February 18, 2004, in the above-identified application, with a one month shortened statutory period, making a response due on or before March 18, 2004. This response is timely filed.

## REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner has issued a restriction requirement and requires election of one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121 and 35 U.S.C. §372:

Group I:

Claims 1-13, drawn to a method and apparatus for separating particles.

Group II:

Claims 14-15 and 18-19, drawn to a method and apparatus for separating

particles.

Group III:

Claims 16-17 and 20, drawn to a method and apparatus for separating

particles.

{WP172227;1}

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